

NOTiCiAS DEL OSO

December 16, 2009

#6

To make up for last week's no-show newsletter, our last issue of 2009 is a "double issue" of sorts. Though I'm only writing about one topic, I'm adding on a ton of examples.

As you're planning the next semester's lessons, I hope you'll think about adding a few more graphic organizers to your complement of resources. Everyone's familiar with KWL charts and venn diagrams, but hopefully this week I'll deliver some other options that might be more inspiring, even to seasoned teachers!

Happy holidays!

Erin Van Sickle

Graphic Language

As I mentioned in our last newsletter, pictures are fairly important for any English Language Learner's understanding of concepts. Graphic organizers are usually any teacher's best bet for using graphics without compromising content or objectives.

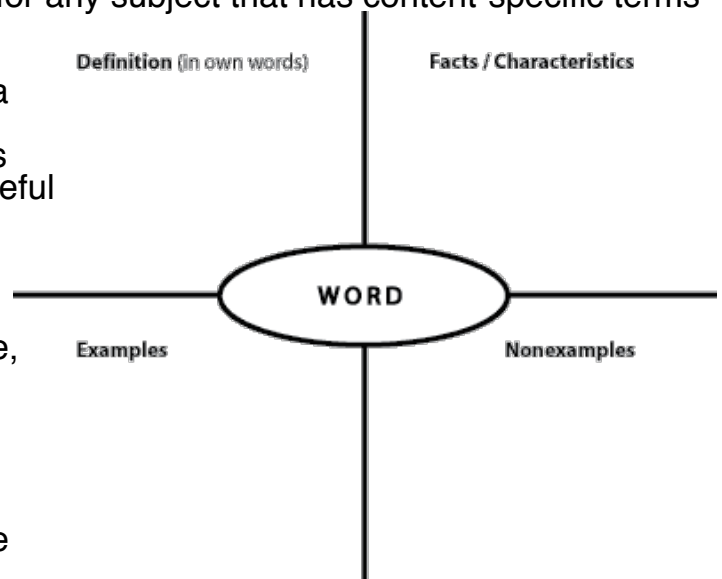
One major graphic organizer that has already been covered in the newsletter is the Frayer model. English and reading teachers should be particularly familiar with this vocabulary strategy, but it can be molded to work well for any subject that has content-specific terms to learn.

While I use a model that includes an area for illustrations as well as synonyms and/or antonyms, the illustration to the right represents a different Frayer square that could be more useful for concrete subjects, such as science or math. For example, to define "gaseous state" in this Frayer model, the student would first define the word as listed in the glossary, identify facts or characteristics about the word, give an example, in this case hydrogen or nitrogen would suffice, and a non-example, such as boron.

However, there are so many more opportunities other than the main ones that the district provides to us with our curriculum. In the additional pages that you will find attached to this newsletter, there are xx different examples of graphic organizers that are readily available to be used when the circumstance presents itself.

In the following list, I will do my best to present ideas for using these graphic organizers that are not always the most obvious of uses, particularly for some of the less language-oriented subjects.

1. Herringbone Map - This map is best to use in history or in a language-related class where information may come in more of a narrative form.



2. News Article Graphic Organizer - The best part about this graphic organizer is that it automatically requires the lesson to bring in a real-life application. This helps my students understand how a concept is used in the real world. Science and math subjects could use this organizer to analyze a news story that the students need to find an underlying theme.

3. Problem Solving Map - Useful in any situation, this lends itself to critical thinking.

4. Puzzling - While the labels assign this almost exclusively to an ELA subject, a little white-out or image manipulation can change that. My students are particularly fond of using a puzzle map to create outlines, and they would more than likely enjoy using a puzzle to make sure that they understand all of parts of a science experiment.

5. Making Predictions - Whether students are making predictions about the resolution of a plot or the outcome of an experiment, this graphic will help them keep their thoughts in order.

6. Comparing Concepts - Similarities and differences are a great teaching tool, this is an easy way to evaluate their understanding.

7. Storyboard - Hands down my favorite graphic organizer, I use this layout as both a flow map and a storyboard. Sometimes when my kiddos have a hard time coming up with the right descriptors, they can still show it in a picture. This way, even if they need assistance with the language, you know that they understood it well enough to know what they needed to have translated.

8. Sandwich Chart - My kiddos have already used this sandwich to keep all of the important details in a paragraph, but it could also help with students organizing reflections about math formulas or scientific reflection.

ESL Students of the Week



Name: Bryan Ortiz

Grade: 7th

First language: Spanish

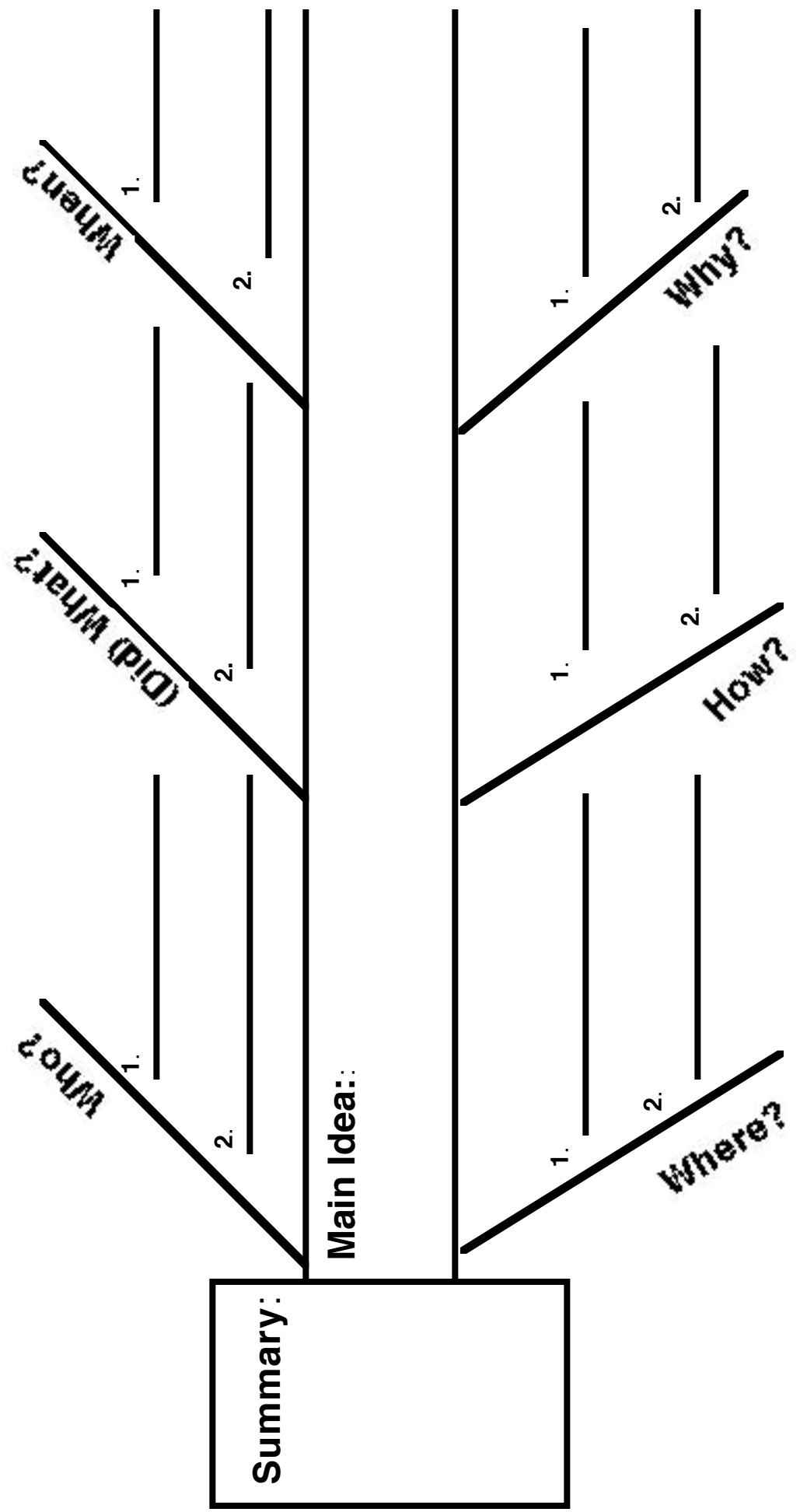
Fun personality fact: Though Bryan can be challenging, his sometimes entertaining behavior is never intended to disrespect the teacher.

Name: Jasmine Garcia
Grade: 7th
First language: Spanish

Fun personality fact: Jasmine cares about not only her grades, but also her teacher's approval. A little personal interest will go a long way.



Herringbone Organizer



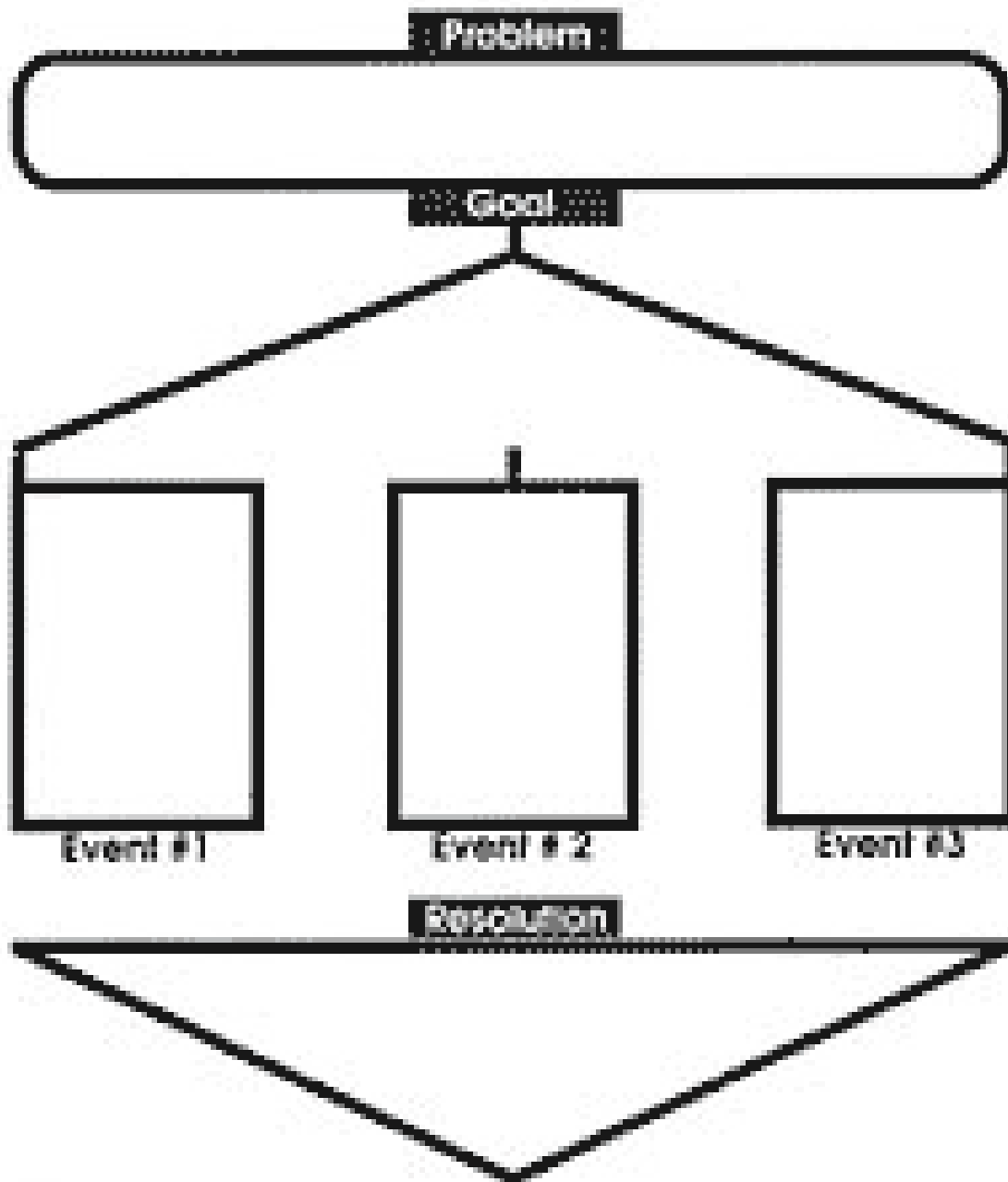
News Article Graphic Organizer

Who?	Detail
	Detail
What?	Detail
	Detail
When?	Detail
	Detail
Where?	Detail
	Detail
Why?	Detail
	Detail
How?	Detail
	Detail

Problem & Solution Diagram

Name: _____

Book Title: _____





Puzzling



As you read, use this graphic organizer to record important ideas about the main character, setting, problem, big events, and solution. Use your own words and list one idea in each puzzle piece. You may not need all the pieces.

Book title _____ Chapters or pages _____

character		character	
setting	big event		big event
problem		solution	

Cross out any ideas you don't need and use the ideas you have left to write a short summary.

_____ **wants** _____
 (main character)

_____ **but** _____

_____ **, so** _____

_____ .

Making Predictions Graphic Organizer

Book Title: _____

Author: _____

Prediction: _____

Supporting quotes/actions/experiences:

Supporting facts and/or inferences:

Conclusion and analysis: Was your prediction right or wrong?

Name _____

Date _____

Comparing Concepts

Directions: Use this compare/contrast organizer to explore analogous as well as non-analogous characteristics of two concepts related to a given topic.

Topic: _____

Concept 1:

Concept 2:

How are
they alike?

How are they
different?





Storyboard

Storyboards are used to visualize your movie ideas. Use this storyboard to help organize your change experiment that you will be recording, editing and publishing on Voice Thread.



Title _____

Name _____

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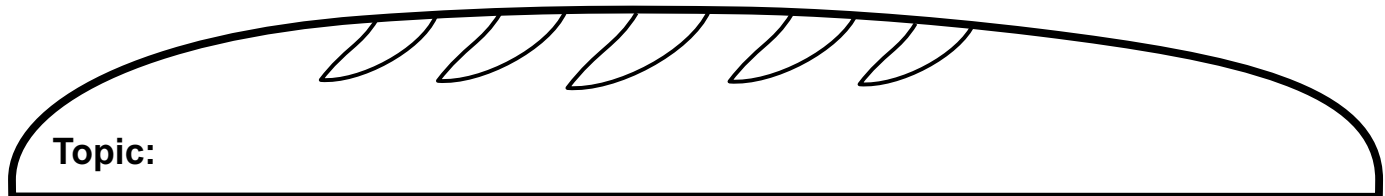
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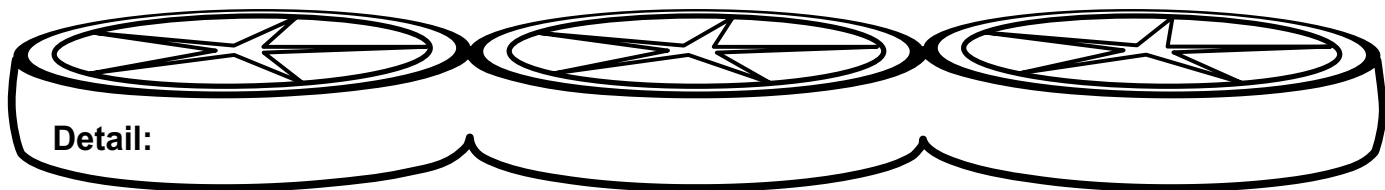
Name _____ Date _____

Sandwich Chart

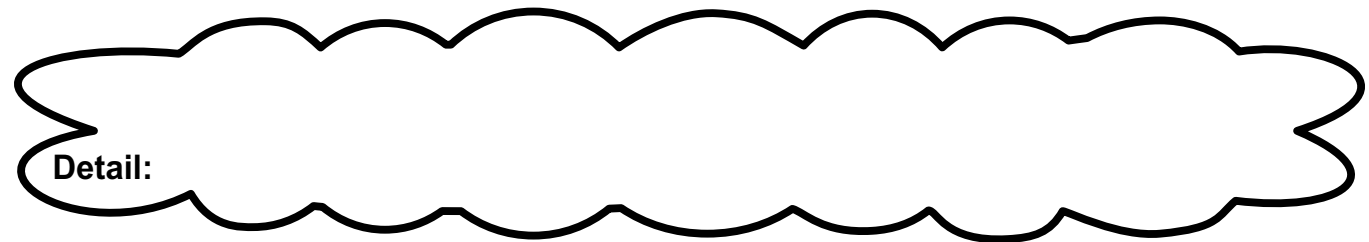
Write your topic at the top. Add details to the middle layers. Add a concluding sentence at the bottom.

A large, horizontal, rounded rectangle representing a slice of bread, with several diagonal lines on the top surface to indicate texture.

Topic:

Three horizontal, rounded rectangles representing slices of tomato, each with a star-shaped pattern in the center.

Detail:

A horizontal, rounded rectangle with a decorative, scalloped border along the top and bottom edges.

Detail:

A horizontal, rounded rectangle with smooth, curved ends.

Detail:

A horizontal, rounded rectangle with smooth, curved ends, intended for a concluding sentence.

Concluding Sentence: